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Federal Election Commission  
999 E Street, NW  
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Dear Sir,

I worked as a volunteer in the campaign of Richard Lewis and I became pretty closely involved in it. It was the first time I had ever been involved in a campaign. I expected the Courier Journal not to give Richard much coverage because he was a third party candidate. I did not expect, however, that they would shut him out as completely as they did. Except for a negative interview, in which untruths were printed, you could put their entire coverage of his part in a very small paragraph. I was dismayed by the lack of coverage from the TV and radio media. It was not uncommon for the major TV stations to have coverage of Ward and Stokes as though there was no third party candidate. WHAS even showed a picture of Ron Lewis (2nd District Congressman) when they were talking about Richard in the last week of the campaign, claiming a new producer didn't know who Ron Lewis was. (We knew the word was being spread Richard was deliberately trying to draw votes by using only his last name on signs.) My respect for the local stations, in whom I previously had considerable esteem, was greatly diminished by their obvious bias in their coverage. The last weekend of the campaign, they made a large pretense of interviewing Richard. I would assume to cover their collective electronic back-sides.

I know for certain that Richard Lewis was denied access to a televised debate early on at the University of Louisville campus "because he didn't fit the format", whatever that was supposed to mean. He was there, and was simply denied access to participation.

I also know the Chamber of Commerce intentionally left him out of a debate.

I know that Joe Elliot (WHAS) said on more than one occasion that Richard did not "stand a snowball's chance in hell of being elected". I know that Elliot did not want to have Richard on his show because he (Elliot) had a liberal audience. (He told me that when I was calling to arrange a time for Richard to be on.) I also know that Elliot had Ward and Stokes on together, a night or 2 before election, after having had them both on singly, and he did not want Richard on the show with the other 2.

I heard the entire broadcast with Jane Norris described by Richard, in which a woman named Debbie accused him of having placed in her hands, personally, material from Dr. Simon. That later proved to be a lie on Debbie's part. The next day

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Faith Mercke, an official of the Republican party came to the office and accused Richard of having passed out Dr. Simon's literature. I was there when she came in, but I did not hear her accusations. All of that is described in Richard's material.

I know that Stu Williams (WWKY) on more than one occasion said, on the air, Richard did not stand an iceberg's chance in hell of winning, that he was in the race only to take votes from Stokes. Williams also referred to Ms. Stokes as "the next 3rd District Representative" on the air when he had her on his show.

I eventually became the publicist for our campaign, and at no time was anyone in our campaign asked to distribute any of Dr. Simon's literature as a part of our campaign effort. I know for certain that the materials we used in our literature was in no way done in connection with Dr. Simon because I did most of the writing myself. I was a history teacher at one time and I had a store of information I have been assimilating literally for as long as 30 years. My reason for joining in this campaign was my distress over the abuse of our constitutional form of government which has steadily been increasing for the past 60 years. As Richard's publicist, I had a viable means of presenting much of what I am distressed about to the public. Richard wrote articles (which I edited) and his brother helped prepare material for the press. Ed Parker wrote a couple of articles, and he also edited and proofread a lot of material. We eventually had 12-15 position papers, which we wrote and prepared for printing, and we had 2 rather lengthy publications which were compilations of our position papers. I also wrote several releases which were sent to all of the main media outlets each Friday. I wrote them and had them approved before they were sent out. At the end of the campaign we had compiled some of the best campaign literature I have ever seen, in its scope and its accuracy. All of our material had the notation that it was paid for by the campaign. We did not deliver, nor did we have delivered, any literature from other sources as a part of our campaign.

I do know that a debate scheduled on the Bellarmine Campus was to be televised, and the sponsors had deliberately left Richard off the program. WAVE-TV was supposed to televise it, and we threatened to bring suit against them unless Richard was allowed to take part. He was allowed on, and more than held his own in the debate.

Still another debate had been scheduled without him which was to be broadcast by WWKY, and they quickly included him after the incident with WAVE. Richard won that debate hands down!

I can tell you in all honesty that our campaign was intent

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on winning the election! Volunteers don't work that hard to "just take votes away from one of the candidates". We weren't in it to lose! And I fully expected us to either win or be second, even on the way to the election night party. I was with Richard and his brother just before our get together, and we were making plans on transition to Washington. We even made plans on programs we could cut to work on balancing the budget.

We did a lot with the funds we had, and we got a lot of good response from people we talked to, but in the end it appears much of that good response was lost because media coverage of our campaign had been so negative. I cannot overstate that fact. If there had been a conspiracy to shut Richard Lewis out of the coverage of the election, it could not have worked better.

In my opinion, it takes great courage and strong beliefs to run for a seat in Congress. In this country, no person should be denied the right to run for any office simply because he isn't a Democrat or Republican. People like me are denied access to the system if third party candidates cannot run freely. I am against abortion on demand, and both Ward and Stokes are for it. I am a strong advocate of our rights under the Bill of Rights, and Ward and Stokes are on record as being for restriction of many of those rights. (gun control, stronger federal government, stronger police powers, etc.) Had Richard Lewis not come along and asked for my signature on his petition to run for Congress, I would not have had a candidate to vote for. I have been a registered independent for more than 40 years. That the entire media in this area made obvious attempts to portray him as a single issue non-entity is outrageous, but for anyone to try to paint a conspiratorial picture of his candidacy as one for no other purpose than to cause one of the other candidates to lose is ludicrous. I worked closely with him in the campaign and if I had any indication that he was not totally dedicated to winning the election I would not have continued. I knew it would be a monumental task to win against the money and resources both the other candidates had. but I truly believed we were going to pull it off. Until returns came in on election day, I truly believed we were in a position to win the election.

*Robert C. Wallace*

Sandra K Davidson 12-8-94

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